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Executive Registry

83-1543

March 16, 1983

DD/A Registry

83-0614/3

Mr. Harry Fitzwater
Deputy Director for Administration
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D.C. 20505

Dear Harry:

I want to thank you very much for the time you shared with [redacted] and myself. We greatly appreciated the opportunity to present the concepts behind The Jason Project and to propose the possibility that the CIA might be the lead agency.

Our presentation at the White House has elicited a high level of interest there, which is appropriate given the very critical nature of the challenge we face. I think it is possible, if the CIA were to come forward and indicate a willingness to be the lead agency on this Project, we might very well be able to get it moving quickly. A broad based constituency may exist, I believe, to support such a decision and such an effort.

Of all the elements involved in this decision, the one that is most critical to our national interest is time. As I mentioned to you, we started looking into this challenge last July. We are now approaching April, and I would suspect that at least a full year will have passed before any meaningful activity begins to take place and that simply puts the Japanese another twelve months ahead of us, which is something I think we can ill afford.

Again, it was good to meet you, and thank you very much for your interest.

Sincerely,

cc: The Honorable William J. CaseyDC
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